

Please substitute the paragraph starting at page 5, line 22 and ending at page 6, line 5 with the following replacement paragraph. A marked-up copy of this paragraph, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

H2 --Figures 2A and 2B of the accompanying drawings are cross-section views of the essential portions of a single beam scanning optical apparatus in the main scanning direction and the sub scanning direction, respectively, and show changes in the spot diameter (F number) in the sub scanning direction due to image height. In these figures, the same elements as the elements shown in Figure 1 are given the same reference numerals.--

Please substitute the paragraph starting at page 55, line 20 with the following replacement paragraph. A marked-up copy of this paragraph, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

H3 --Lastly, for the comparison with the scanning optical apparatus of the present invention, description will be made of the manner in which multibeam scanning was effected by a single beam scanning optical apparatus.--

Please substitute the paragraph starting at page 55, line 25 and ending at page 56, line 9 with the following